

# Audubon

## FIELD NOTES

AUDUBON MAGAZINE

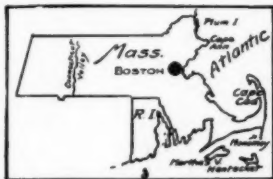
SECTION II

JULY-

AUGUST 1945

## SPRING MIGRATION

**BOSTON REGION** The entire spring migration took place under abnormal conditions. March, usually a most unpleasant month, was not only



delightful but produced record-breaking heat, the temperature going over 70° on several days and reaching 86° on the 29th. There was an accumulation of 336° of excess heat. Another excess 186° was rolled up in the first 14 days of April. The extraordinarily early development of the vegetation is said to have been paralleled only in the first year of the Revolution; in any event apples and cherries were in bloom April 15 instead of May 10. The weather then changed suddenly to cool and rainy, becoming progressively cooler as the season advanced; only once did the temperature pass 70° in eastern Massachusetts! During May there was not a single warm spell. There were no marked waves of migrants whatever in central or western Massachusetts. In eastern Massachusetts, the southwest wind and a feeble rise in temperature never lasted the whole night; the wind always went northeast with cold rain or fog early in the morning and conditions for observation were as unfavorable as possible. Those who waited for warm weather later in the month never got it, and saw practically no birds at all.

The effects of the remarkable climatic conditions on the migration may be summarized as follows:

1. The earliest spring migrants did not make their first appearance exceptionally early, but their migration was concluded exceptionally early. Examples, the ducks, rusty blackbird, junco and fox sparrow.

2. The early April migrants appeared in some numbers on dates without precedent in history. Birding the last days of March and the first days of April was indeed astonishing, as even a few

stragglers of species normally arriving in May were reported.

3. These species were sharply split into two groups. About one-third of the population responded to the abnormal conditions and was very early. The remaining two-thirds were not affected and instead responded to the abnormally cool conditions in April and May. Consequently they were exceptionally late, and flooded the country from May 13 on, a date when the last stragglers are ordinarily reported. Species with their migration sharply split into two halves were the hermit thrush, ruby-crowned kinglet, blue-headed vireo and swamp sparrow.

4. It follows that by the end of April the migration was a little belated, and decidedly late by May 10. Bad weather destroyed any wave of the first group of May birds, the summer residents trickling in May 6, 8, and 9. Not a single decent mixed flock of warblers was seen near Boston until May 13!

5. On May 13 a tremendous wave flooded eastern Massachusetts. It included all the missing April birds, the balance of the first May group, and the second May group in numbers. In Essex County we found 132 species in heavy fog and rain; there were six Cape May warblers, blackpolls, bay-breasts, 50 magnolias, and 26 white-crowned sparrows.

6. Another great wave arrived May 19 in a northeast rain storm after six days of cold weather. It cleared from the northwest that afternoon, so the wave held over. May 20 was brilliantly clear, cool and still. Fourteen of us endeavored to entertain Mr. Guy Emerson, a distinguished visitor from New York. By going 23 hours, under ideal conditions, and with a detailed local knowledge, which made it possible to find eight species after dark, including eight individuals of five owls, we recorded 160 species, one of the greatest single party lists in history. The automobile mileage was 163, whereas the only three larger lists I know of, from New Jersey and Texas, involved over double this mileage. This wave included all four

May groups plus April stragglers. The only really great rarity was a cerulean warbler.

7. There were small flights May 23, 26, and June 2nd, the belated stragglers most affected by the cold weather. Some are still trickling through.

Turning now to special groups of birds:

**Waterfowl**—Good Canada goose flight, some snow geese and one blue goose (the first ever) in early April. A poor pond duck flight, only the green-winged teal in normal numbers. Outstanding was the complete failure of the black duck flight; the best concentration areas reported only 10–20% of normal numbers. There was a marked and gratifying increase in wood ducks. Greatest numbers ever of scaup and bufflehead.

**Hawks**—Good flight of every species.

**Shorebirds**—It seems almost impossible, but the increase in this group continues. The peak was very early, May 23. Outstanding sights were 1600 red-backed sandpipers in breeding plumage at Chatham May 3, and 2500 black-bellied plover at Newburyport on May 23. A female European ruff on April 29 (Curtis, *et al*).

**Gulls**—Notable further increase in ring-billed gulls, 280 at Newburyport on April 8. There were three European black-headed gulls there this spring, two adults and one immature, which still remains. A fully adult little gull on May 23. Also a royal tern on May 23, obviously in very poor shape. It was still in the first immature plumage, appeared to fly with reluctance, and when alighting, occasionally fell forward on its chest (Seen by Griscom and ten others).

**Song birds**—Excellent numbers of most of the May transients, poor numbers of most of the April transients. A notable flight of swallows; more martins than usual, more rough-winged swallows than ever before, and cliff swallows migrating in hundreds for over a week in mid-May. A remarkable flight of thrushes; I personally saw 59 gray-cheeks and 164 olive-backs.

The only great rarity not already mentioned was a male chuckwill's-widow at Nahant May 26, first flushed by Andrew Griscom and studied on the ground at leisure at 20 feet by four of us.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge 38, Mass.*

**NEW YORK REGION** During the spring of 1945 the weather presented many abnormalities and these conditions were reflected in the unusual features

found in the migration in this region.

In February weather conditions were normal until the last week of the month when temperatures were par-

ticularly high for this time of the year. This was the beginning of a prolonged period of abnormally warm weather which continued through March and the first eighteen days of April. The average temperature for March was 14 degrees above normal, an all-time Weather Bureau record and March was considerably warmer than a typical April. In late April these conditions were reversed and until the end of May, temperatures were almost continually subnormal, the average for the month being 2 degrees lower than usual expectation. During the period of high temperature precipitation was below normal but the later cool period was accompanied by unusually prevalent rain, the total fall during May exceeded normal by 2½ inches. With these unwonted weather conditions it is not surprising that many bird time-tables were badly off schedule and many new early records were made. The warm weather of March and early April advanced the foliage by at least two weeks to the great dismay of observers seeking tree-top warblers.

Along the coast there was a good flight of loons and grebes, the former at maximum on March 17. The flight of Canada geese was small but well distributed. Brant are increasing, and several thousand were assembled in the bays on the south shore of Long Island in middle March. The first flight of pintails reported was on February 25 at Long Branch (Seeley) but the reports show no large flights or concentrations, giving the impression that both dabbling and diving ducks are down in numbers. The double-crested cormorants have been numerous and heavy flights are reported along the coast.

The flight of raptors was light, even for spring. The greatest numbers reported were seen from the Watchung ridge in New Jersey on April 28. On that day 835 were recorded; 70% were broad-wings, 18% sharp-shins, the remainder consisting of turkey vultures, Cooper's, red-tailed, marsh and sparrow hawks, bald eagles and ospreys. A gyrfalcon over Massapequa, March 3 (Elliott) was the last report of this species for the season.

From the standpoint of numbers of individuals the migration of shore-birds was most satisfactory. Woodcock were seen at Seaford, L. I., on February 1 and two were singing at Massapequa, March 3 (Elliott). Unusually early turnstones were at Atlantic Beach, L. I., on April 1 (Bull, Eisenmann, Fry). Of the rarer spring migrants, the lesser yellow-legs and pectoral sandpipers were reported at Point Pleasant, N. J., April 8 (Seeley). An early solitary sandpiper was at Pine Brook, N. J., April 15 (Lang), and a good flight of Hudsonian curlew on May 20, Tuckerton, N. J. There was a large concentration of shore-birds at Idlewild, L. I., from May 23 to June 3 when thousands of knots and "peeps" and hundreds of black-bellied and semipalmated plover, dowitchers and sanderling were reported. The majority of these birds moved out on the latter date but there was still a good representation of shore-



birds on southern Long Island on June 9, particularly at Oak and Jones Beaches.

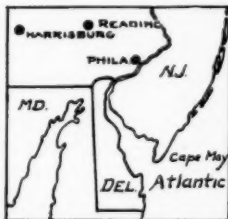
The vagaries of weather are reflected in the unusual divergences from normal dates and sequences of arrival of north-bound migrating land-birds. Dr. Henry Bunting of Bethany, Conn., kindly sent me a most interesting chart which he has prepared by plotting the dates of arrival of migrants of this year, compared with the average dates based on observations covering a number of years past at that location. From this chart it appears that those birds which normally arrive prior to the middle of April were present this year about ten days earlier than average; the group that arrived April 25 to May 1 were, on the average, 5 days ahead of schedule, while the normal May arrivals were on time. This condition seems to be generally true throughout the region and in all cases in the early part of the period there are wide divergences from normal years. Waves have been apparent but they did not seem to be as definite and well-marked as in seasons past. Until the end of April the birds drifted in without any such concentrations as might be classed as waves and it was in this period that many of the abnormal records were established. Fifty redwings were reported at Lawrence, L. I., on February 9 (Bull), mourning doves arrived at Montclair, February 27 (Fry). Tree swallows, Jones Beach, L. I., on March 11 (Rose), field sparrow, Greenwich, on March 23 (Weaver), house wren and towhee, Central Park, on March 26; barn swallow, Troy Meadow, N. J., March 31, rough-winged swallow, N. Y. City, April 15 and blue-winged warbler, Bronx Park, April 27 (all Komorowski). Black-billed cuckoo, Prospect Park, N. Y., and yellow-billed cuckoo, Mountain Lakes, N. J. (Franklin), catbird, at Greenwich, April 28 (Weaver). All of these are very early or entirely new records.

After the beginning of May a minor wave could be recognized on the 5th with kingbirds, Baltimore orioles, red-eyed vireos, chestnut-sided, Nashville, and golden-winged warblers; Henslow's and grasshopper sparrows. This was followed on May 11 and 12 by a wave of greater proportions, a warbler wave, including most of the later warblers. On May 20 and 21 another wave occurred bringing additional numbers of male warblers as well as a large flight of females. With this the migration was apparently over, as the next 10 days showed little or no movement, but on June 3 a belated flight of wave proportions was reported, it included a yellow-bellied flycatcher at Far Rockaway (Bull), also pewees and olive-sided flycatchers; magnolia, Cape May, black-throated green, myrtle, Blackburnian, bay-breasted, black-poll, mourning, Wilson's and Canada warblers, both males and females.

Although but few were missing from the number of species recorded there is a general feeling that the number of individuals was low, this impression may be due to steady infiltration in early season rather than movement in definite waves or to the

advanced stage of the foliage at the time of maximum migration or probably to both factors. Some species, of which the olive-backed and the gray-checked thrush are good examples, were definitely low.—CHARLES K. NICHOLS, *American Museum of Natural History*, New York 24, N. Y.

**PHILADELPHIA REGION** Weather conditions during the spring migration season were somewhat abnormal. Usual temperatures were experienced during February. March was more like May. April was about normal. May was cold as were the first ten days in June. The warm March days caused vegetation to be three weeks ahead of normal. By May 1 the foliage was thick. The woods and fields appeared as they would in June.



The migration of snow geese at Fortescue, N. J., during March was not as spectacular as usual. Apparently the birds were broken up into small groups by gun practice operations about Delaware Bay. Many small groups were noted. On March 12, Lt. P. B. Street saw about 1000 geese on Delaware Bay. The observation was made from the air. Three were seen as late as May 8 (Brown) at Wildwood Villas, Cape May Co., N. J.

A very satisfactory migration of woodcock occurred in early March. On March 11, near Fortescue, N. J., 15 birds were seen and heard singing (Coman, *et al*). Wilson's snipe records were few, indicating a scarcity of these birds.

Late April brought a light wave of migrant warblers. The migration continued light until the middle of May. The bulk passed through between May 15-20. Small waves continued until June 10.

The heaviest thrush flight occurred the first week of June, rather late.

On the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club "round up" conducted in the Philadelphia Region May 13-204 species of birds were recorded by 20 groups of observers. The lack of unusual migrants and the small number of migrant warblers observed was astonishing. The largest number 146 species obtained by one group was in the Delmarva Peninsula (Neuman, *et al*). Interesting observations on the migration in this area were—very few migrant warblers. Shore-bird migration at Ocean City, Md., was the very best ever seen. Ruddy duck, 50 at Silver Lake, Rehoboth Beach, Del., and Bombay Hook Refuge, Del. The ruddy duck is a regular May migrant in Delaware but was unusually numerous this year. Purple sandpiper, 4 on the bay shore and 2 on a rock pile at Ocean City, Md., 8

on a rock pile at Indian River, Del. Caspian tern, 2 on a sand bar, Indian River, Del.; black tern, 3 at Bombay Hook Refuge, Del.; yellow-crowned night heron (migrant?) 2 at Willards, Md.; willet, 8 at Indian River, Del., numerous at Bombay Hook Refuge, Del., where it breeds.

**OTHER MIGRATION RECORDS OF INTEREST**—near Wilmington, Del., May 6, summer tanager (E. and Q. Kramer). Pennypack Park, Philadelphia, Pa., April 15, yellow-throated warbler (Yoder). West Chester, Pa., April 4, blue-gray gnatcatcher (R. L. Lloyd). Media, Pa., April 8, blue-gray gnatcatcher (Malley). West Chester, Pa., May 5, 4 black tern, 1 still present on May 13 (Martin, *et al*). Ocean View, N. J., May 11, white crowned sparrow. March 30, whip-poor-will calling at 10 P.M. and 5 A.M. the next morning, a very early record (Fox). Moorestown, N. J., April 22, golden eagle. A very fine view as the eagle circled over head (Haines).—J. K. POTTER, *Collingswood, N. J.*

#### CAROLINA REGION COASTAL SECTION—

An early, warm spring with temperatures to the mid-eighties for March, followed by a cool spell in May, with scant rainfall.



**DEPARTING WINTER VISITORS**—Loons, cormorants and gannets left on time, with a fine flight of the last-named (1500 at Pea Island, N. C., March 19 and at

Virginia Beach, Va., March 23). Anatidae movements near normal, with last Canada geese leaving Santee Refuge, Manning, S. C., March 10, Pea Island, March 15, and Norfolk, May 20 (rather late). Snow geese near Norfolk, April 1. Last whistling swan at Santee Refuge, March 20, and on Back Bay a flock reported by a fisherman on May 15 (*vide* Mackenzie). Last Wilson's snipe at Santee Refuge on April 30 and Norfolk, May 5. At the former point Baldwin reports largest flight in years. Several wintering small birds left the Charleston area ahead of average dates.

**SUMMER ARRIVALS**—Most herons and egrets moved normally, although apparently late are 3 glossy ibises (rare) at Southport, N. C., June 10 (Mrs. R. C. Simpson). Among the hawks, swallow-tailed kites showed up at Charleston, March 5, two weeks early, while late were ospreys and the unusual broad-winged hawk (the latter, April 22 and May 5, near Norfolk) (Mackenzie). Near Charleston 16 "song" birds are nearly evenly divided as to "on time", "early", and "late". Rare or unusual are a gray kingbird at Cape Romain, S. C., April 19

(Sprunt, Shuler), and a Kentucky warbler near Norfolk, May 5 (Mackenzie). Vireos appeared in goodly numbers, and included the rare Philadelphia seen near Norfolk, May 5 (Mackenzie).

**TRANSIENTS**—Shorebirds appeared decreased in numbers, with somewhat late arrivals and sudden departures making for short flights. Near Norfolk, Mackenzie reported few, if any, willets, red-backed, pectoral, white-rumped, and stilt sandpipers. At Pea Island, Hill listed 5000 red-backs in late April, as compared with "tens of thousands" reported by Walker in 1943. Transient small bird movements considered near normal, and include two warblers rare on the coast, a Cape May on April 28 (Mackenzie) and a Blackburnian on May 13 (Mrs. Philt, *vide* Mackenzie), both near Norfolk. Nice flocks of bobolinks reported near Charleston, Santee Refuge (Baldwin) and near Norfolk (Mrs. Reed).

**INLAND SECTION**—March unusually warm. April and May cooler than usual. Rainfall below normal for period. In spite of the early warm weather, dates of arrival were about normal. Chipping sparrow, Greensboro (Zapf), March 3, Raleigh, 6th; whip-poor-will, New London (Trott) 17th; white-eyed vireo, Henderson (Bachman) and yellow-throated warbler, Greensboro, 19th; swift, Spartanburg, 28th (Cannon), Statesville, 29th (Anderson). Transients, especially warblers, were rather scarce, but scarlet tanagers were more common than usual at Raleigh, April 29-May 13, and Greensboro, April 18-May 19, and at New London, Spartanburg, and Henderson. Baltimore orioles at Raleigh, April 29-May 13, and at New London, April 25 and on May 6 at Henderson and Greensboro. Rose-breasted grosbeaks, Spartanburg, April 23-May 15, and at Raleigh, Greensboro, and Henderson. A good crop of mulberries attracted all three species at Raleigh. Cedar waxwing, Raleigh, June 3, Greensboro, June 6 (Crawford); myrtle warbler, Roanoke Rapids (Miss Hearne) May 19; goldeneye, Raleigh, May 5; cerulean warbler, Greensboro, May 5; Wilson's warbler, Raleigh, May 5; chuckwill's widow, Greensboro, May 5; upland plover, Greensboro, April 28. At Asheville (Mrs. Grinnell) all summer birds earlier than usual, no really good warbler days, birds less abundant and more scattered. Catbird, April 17; scarlet tanager, 18th; wood pewee, 19th; crested flycatcher, parula warbler and yellow-throat, 20th; indigo bunting, 27th; Cape May warbler and hummingbird, 30th. Two Baltimore orioles, May 25; last myrtle warbler, 20th; last white-throated sparrow, 26th. At Tumbling Creek, Tenn., high up and just over North Carolina line, Seeman gives Louisiana water thrush, March 19; chipping sparrow, March 28; blue-headed vireo, April 1; Canada warbler, 3rd; warbling vireo, 7th; whip-poor-will, 15th; swift and scarlet tanager, 24th; upland plover, 28th; hummingbird, May 4; wood thrush, 5th; chat, 14th; catbird, 19th; white-eyed vireo and ovenbird, 21st; black-billed cuckoo, June 5.—E. B. CHAMBERLAIN, *Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C.*; C. S.

Brimley, N. C. *Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.*

**PENSACOLA (FLA.) REGION** Warm weather characterized the first half of the migration period, which in this region extends from early February



through May. Temperatures were normal during the second half. Rainfall was subnormal in the first half, but excessive and spotty in the second half, with torrential rains separating relatively long dry spells.

The first arrival was, as always, the purple martin, reported on February 15 (Mrs. A. L. Whigham).

American egret and osprey were first seen on February 25; little blue heron and lesser yellowlegs, March 4; white ibis, March 10 (Mrs. J. F. Wernicke); parula warbler, March 11; night herons (presumably the yellow-crowned, since the black-crowned is very rare) were heard passing over Pensacola at night, March 12; chimney swift (Mrs. Whigham—the earliest ever recorded, by one day) and solitary sandpiper (K. R. Tanner), March 13; rough-winged swallow, March 14 (Mrs. Wernicke). An interesting comparison with some of these dates is afforded in reports by Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr., from the swamps of southern Alabama: parula warbler, common on March 7; white ibis, March 11; and yellow-crowned night heron, March 13.

Great rarities of the season were: swallow-tailed kite, first reported on April 4 (Mrs. Wernicke) and seen twice again; golden-winged warbler, April 22, one of the few occurrences in my experience; Baltimore oriole, one bird each on April 22, 23, 24 and 25 and May 6, and 4 birds on May 5 (totalling more than I had seen altogether in the preceding 29 years); bay-breasted warbler, April 23 (and on four later occasions) bobolink, May 5 (Miss L. Pate) and again on May 13; stilt sandpiper, May 13; and white-rumped sandpiper, 2 birds on May 13 and one on May 20.

Other arrival dates include: ruby-throated hummingbird, March 15 (Sprunt); yellow-throated vireo, March 21 (Mrs. Whigham); pectoral sandpiper, March 23; red-eyed vireo, March 24 (Mrs. Whigham); snowy egret, March 25; prothonotary warbler, March 26 (Tanner); eastern kingbird (Mrs. Wernicke) and orchard oriole (Mrs. Whigham), March 27; summer tanager, March 28 (Mrs. Whigham); wood thrush (Tanner) and hooded warbler, March 31; broad-winged hawk, April 1; painted bunting (earliest ever recorded, by 5 days), April 2; crested flycatcher, April 5 (Tanner); ovenbird, April 6 (Tanner); chuck-will's-widow, April 7; upland plover (Tanner), green heron, yellow-billed cuckoo and

indigo bunting, April 8; nighthawk, April 11; Cabot's tern, April 15; scarlet tanager, April 18; yellow-breasted chat, April 19; least tern, April 20; spotted sandpiper, veery, blue-winged and magnolia warblers, redstart and rose-breasted grosbeak, April 22; olive-backed thrush and blue grosbeak, April 23; gray kingbird, April 27; Mississippi kite, April 30; yellow warbler (irregular—seen early in April some years), May 1 (Miss Pate); gray-cheeked thrush (rare—or easily overlooked), May 4; and black tern, May 6. This was pre-eminently a scarlet tanager and rose-breasted grosbeak year, and both were abundant on each of several days—on one occasion, 13 tanagers were counted in one tree, 8 of them in the field of my glasses at once!

Departure dates of transients include: western sandpiper, April 22 (latest ever recorded, by 27 days); painted bunting, April 27; black-throated green warbler, May 5 (Miss Pate); lesser yellowlegs (Tanner), catbird, veery, ovenbird and redstart, May 8; rose-breasted grosbeak, May 11 (Mrs. Whigham); solitary, spotted and least sandpipers, olive-backed thrush, yellow, magnolia and bay-breasted warblers and scarlet tanager, May 13; semipalmated plover, May 17; semipalmated sandpiper, May 20; and barn swallow, May 27.

A peculiar feature of the spring occurrence of the myrtle warbler is that wintering birds (most of them in dull plumage) become scarce early in April. About the middle of the month, high-plumaged birds in full song appear with the incoming trans-Gulf migrants and are abundant for a week or two. The last to be seen this year was a single bird on May 13—the latest ever recorded, by 6 days. Other departure dates of winter residents include: golden-crowned kinglet, March 13 (Tanner); purple finch, March 22 (Mrs. Whigham); song sparrow, March 25; American golden-eye and orange-crowned warbler, April 1; phoebe and hermit thrush, April 8; cowbird, April 10 (Mrs. Whigham); house wren and blue-headed vireo, April 15; red-breasted merganser, duck hawk and ruby-crowned kinglet, April 29; black and white warbler, April 30; white-throated sparrow, May 2 (Mrs. Whigham); common loon, herring and ring-billed gulls, May 6; black-bellied plover (in nuptial plumage), May 13; cedar waxwing, May 19 (Mrs. Whigham); sanderling (birds in nuptial plumage still common), May 20; and coot, May 27. The glaucous gull, reported in the Winter Season, was seen many times during the spring by several observers up to April 24. The double-crested cormorant, usually absent after the first week of May, was seen many times this year during May and June and was still present (5 birds) on June 24.—FRANCIS M. WESTON, 2006 E. Jordan St., Pensacola, Fla.

**OHIO-MICHIGAN REGION** This March was the warmest in history and one of the wettest. Many



shrubs were in leaf four weeks earlier than



usual and fruit trees bloomed in southern Michigan during the last week of the month. The warm spell tapered off in the first half of April and was succeeded by a period of subnormal temperatures which persisted almost without a break until the second week in June.

**MIGRATION**—Streams and lakes thawed rapidly in late February and early March. The waterfowl,

particularly the pintail and other early marsh ducks, with plenty of open water farther north, moved through rapidly. By mid-March the main flight for many kinds had passed, giving observers much less than the usual time to see them.

The rapid disappearance of shore-bound ice also reduced opportunities for seeing the northern gulls on Lake Erie. The black-backed gull was last seen on March 18 and the glaucous on April 1.

The early spring had a remarkable effect upon plant life but not so much so upon birds. Perhaps the most noteworthy event of March was the departure of the tree sparrows; the last of them disappeared before April 1, whereas some ordinarily remain until May. Early nesting birds got off to a good start, with robins and cardinals completing nests in March.

Although many arrivals came at about the expected time, a few were significantly early. The swallows, except the bank, were a week or more early at Lake Erie; purple martin, March 24; tree swallow and barn swallow, April 7; rough-winged swallow, April 8. The myrtle warbler, which reached southern Michigan by April 7, was fully two weeks ahead of schedule. Individuals of other species which set local "earliest dates" were as follows: black-throated green warbler at Columbus on March 31 (Mrs. Barry, Thomas) and at Dayton on April 1 (Bert Smith); black and white warbler at Findlay, Ohio, on April 15 (Phillips) and at Toledo on the same day; and Henslow's sparrow at Put-in-Bay on April 7 (Walker).

Then conditions changed radically, and after the middle of April almost every arrival was late. For example, the myrtle warbler, which had become fairly numerous at Toledo by April 14, was not seen here again until May 2, nor was any new warbler recorded in this time. There was a fair flight on May 6, but no real wave until about May 13. The following week was exceptionally good throughout the region, but most people found their

best day between May 19 and 24, fully a week later than usual.

White-crowned sparrows were late and numerous, and cedar waxwings were not seen in numbers at Toledo until May 30.

Finally, a feature of the season was the retarded departure of northbound birds. Among the warblers lingering after the first of June in Ohio were the magnolia, Blackburnian, bay-breasted, black-poll, mourning, Connecticut, and Canada.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST**—Four American egrets, first noted on April 6 near Toledo, have remained, suggesting once more that they may be nesting in one of the heronries nearby (Van Camp). An adult little blue heron at Youngstown on April 2 (Cook, Minich and Heimerdinger) is the first spring record for that locality. European widgeon, seldom missed in spring anymore, was seen in at least three places along the southwestern edge of Lake Erie: on March 18 (Skaggs and others), April 6 (Van Camp), April 7 (Mayfield and others). Although the yellow rail is believed to visit the marshes of this region regularly in migration, it is seldom seen; so it is interesting to hear that Stewart at Youngstown almost—but not quite!—picked up one. At Put-in-Bay 43 Hudsonian curlew passed on May 21 (Walker).

Bewick's wren nests in southern Ohio, but does not often wander farther north. However, an unexpected and surprisingly early bird was singing at Marblehead on Lake Erie on March 18 (Skaggs) and ten miles away at Put-in-Bay (same bird?) on March 22 (Walker).

The white-eyed vireo, rare in northern Ohio, occurred at Put-in-Bay on May 9 (Walker). The worm-eating warbler was a local find at Dayton (Bert Smith), and a sycamore warbler near Salem, Ohio, on May 4 is one of the few modern records for northern Ohio (Baker). A Kentucky warbler, found dead on May 21 at Toledo, is the second record and first specimen for northwestern Ohio (Campbell). Another southern warbler, the hooded, appeared at a number of places in northern Ohio about May 20 and was seen as far north as Battle Creek, Michigan (Peterson).

Western meadowlark remained to nest near Akron (Fred Smith). A Xanthochroic scarlet tanager (bright orange with black wings) visited Columbus on May 19 and 20 and was viewed by many people (Thomas).

Probably the best find of the season was a Leconte's sparrow near Toledo on May 12, the first in spring in Ohio since 1880 (Mosely, Van Camp).—HAROLD MAYFIELD, 3311 Parkwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio.

**MIDDLE-WESTERN REGION** The moderate winter ended abruptly with unseasonably high temperatures during the last half of March, followed



by almost two and a half months of cool, rainy conditions prevailing to mid-June. Temperatures averaged  $18^{\circ}$  to  $21^{\circ}$  above the normal mean in late March while thereafter into June, the deficiency averaged  $3^{\circ}$  to  $9^{\circ}$ . All snow melted in March, with no appreciable run-off, due to the unfrozen ground. Precipitation of great frequency, and averaging 111 to 160 per cent of normal, together with abnormally cold weather, retarded planting and plant growth.

During this spring, with May and March reversed, early migrants arrived earlier and the late ones later with all observers reporting some extreme dates. Numerous reports of bird fatalities were attributed in part to cold weather, to lack of food probably in the case of purple martins and night hawks, and to exposure to rain for bluebirds, robins, and other April nesting species.

Practically all waterfowl arrived from one to two weeks early. The appearance of baldpates at Springfield, Ill., February 24 (McElroy), Indianapolis, Ind., March 3 (Campbell), W. Lafayette, Ind., March 4 (Burr), and Horicon Refuge, March 15 (Beed) are typical examples. Ruddy ducks were noted at Springfield, Ill., February 24, at W. Lafayette on March 4, and 200 were seen in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, March 25 (Serbousek).

The well-defined flight of Canada geese through central Wisconsin adds strength to the theory that these birds are completing a clock-wise migration, having passed southward from Hudson Bay through the Jack Miner Sanctuary at Kingsville, Ontario, where many are banded in the fall. Most of these birds are believed to winter at or near the Horse-shoe Lake Refuge in southern Illinois. These geese were heard flying over Springfield the evening of March 15 (Eifert). Several reports of a heavy spring flight of Canada geese northward through Wisconsin were received. Mrs. W. D. McMasters noted hundreds of geese at the outlet of Lake Geneva, near Delavan, Wis., March 17, including 3 snow geese. Mrs. Arthur Koehler reported 2000 Canada geese near Madison remaining for two weeks in March. Watson Beed found them on Horicon Refuge March 7 and late in March 25,000 were present. At the same time he reported many thousands on Fox, Puckaway, Poygon, and Winnebago Lakes, all in central Wisconsin. The flight along the Mississippi River bottoms was not pronounced; 150 appearing on the Upper Mississippi Refuge, March 6, with a peak of 1,600 on March 25 and the last on

April 10 (Steele). In 1944, Biologist Robert H. Smith of the Fish and Wildlife Service estimated 78,000 Canada geese in the Mississippi Flyway. In the Missouri River Valley, at Sioux City, Conservation Officer W. W. Trusell observed 150 Canada geese on March 22, first migrants. No pronounced flight occurred. The blue goose flight, chiefly restricted to the Missouri River Valley, spread somewhat this year with 3,000 blue and snow geese resting on the Green Bay Bottoms near Burlington, Iowa, in March (Harlan). Single blue geese have been noted rarely along the Mississippi River in past springs. One bird was seen at Indianapolis, March 8 (Campbell), and a flock of about 50 blue geese was seen at Springfield, March 21 (Bonney). The blue and snow goose flight through the Missouri River Valley was normal in numbers.

A single sandhill crane was noted at Sioux City on May 13 (Lee) and 25 were reported on March 19 on the Horicon Refuge (Beed). An American egret was seen on the latter area, May 4. Two others were seen about 30 miles west and north of Springfield, May 12 (McElroy), while on the Upper Mississippi Refuge the first egret was observed on the Lower Pools, March 21 and another was observed near Bellevue, Iowa, on April 11, the only two reported this spring (Steele).

The migration of shore birds averaged from one to two weeks late, with the exception of killdeer and yellow-legs, which were much earlier. Killdeer arrived in Springfield on February 24, at Indianapolis, March 3, in Joliet on March 4 (Siegel), at Battle Creek, Iowa, March 11 (Iversen), at Sanborn, Iowa, March 11 (Gruenewald) and Yankton, S. D., on March 16 (Larrabee). A flock of 30 Hudsonian godwits was observed on April 19 at Sanborn (Gruenewald) and five others were seen along the Minnesota-Iowa line in Dickinson Co., on May 13 (Mugrove). The spring flight of these birds northward through the Mississippi Valley evidently is confined to a narrow route with the lake region of northwestern Iowa as one of the regular stopping points. There have been few recent records of Hudsonian godwits away from the Missouri, Big Sioux, James, and Red River Valleys.

A single marbled godwit was located on the 63rd Street beach, Chicago, during the first week in June by James Watson and other members of the Chicago Ornithological Society. Golden plovers were reported for the second successive year by Musselman at Quincy, Ill., and Mugrove observed two flocks of 200 on May 16 in Dickinson Co., Iowa. A single semipalmated plover was noted on April 8 at Indianapolis (Campbell). Musselman reported a marked increase in Wilson's snipe near Quincy while Siegel stated that during April between 25 and 50 snipe could be flushed from a small marsh west of Joliet. Musselman reported that over an area one hundred square miles near Quincy upland plovers are more numerous than in any recent year. He observed an average of one or two pairs every

ten miles during the course of his extensive driving this spring.

Most observers reported few hawks, although Mrs. Koehler reported a heavy migration in the vicinity of Madison, Wis. A single prairie falcon seen by Jack Musgrove on April 29 at Little Wall Lake in Hamilton Co., central Iowa, is a good record. Swainson's hawks were observed at Battle Creek, Iowa, March 17 (Iversen) and Atlantic, Iowa, April 7 (Hansen). A Krider's hawk was seen at Springfield, April 20 (Bonney).

Three chuck-will's-widows were seen at Springfield and one, a female, was found dead (McElroy). The first whip-poor-will, found in the same locality, was on April 21 (Eifert), while the first night-hawk was on May 13. A single chimney swift was seen in Springfield on April 11, a very early date, but the large flocks did not arrive until May 15 (Bonney).

On May 18, Musselman received many calls from people in Quincy who reported finding hummingbirds numbed with the cold. Many of these birds when sufficiently warmed and fed with sugar and water solution were released, apparently fully recovered. Undoubtedly many others perished from the cold.

Purple martins were noted on March 24 in Joliet (Siegel), March 26 at Springfield (Eifert), April 1 at Rockford, Ill. (Bennett), April 7 in Yankton, S. D. (Larrabee), with large numbers seen in Sioux City early in the spring, but during the next two months of cool weather most of them left (Lee). The first tree swallow at the Horicon Refuge was on March 29 (Beed).

A Bewick's wren was found at Springfield, March 17 (Eifert). Brown thrashers were first noted on April 30 at Joliet (Siegel) and on April 7 at Springfield (Bonney). Mockingbirds in the Springfield area on February 10 and March 19 are considered probably resident (Eifert).

Bluebirds wintered in some numbers at Springfield, 28 were noted on February 25 at Indianapolis (Campbell), on March 3 at Belvidere, Ill., (McMasters), and March 11 at Rockford (Bennett). Musselman reported bluebirds more numerous than ever, all his nesting boxes occupied and many birds nesting a second time. The willow thrush was observed at Sioux City in larger numbers than have been noted for some years; a flock of 50 being seen on May 13 (Lee). Their unusual abundance was also confirmed by most observers in the Chicago area.

A marked increase in the numbers of blue-gray gnatcatchers was reported by Bartel at Chicago. About 16 were seen on April 21 at Springfield (Eifert), the bird was noted in Indianapolis on April 21 and in some numbers thereafter (Campbell). A flock of 61 pipits on March 25 was seen in Indianapolis (Campbell) and these birds were first seen at Battle Creek, Iowa, on April 29, where they were common for about ten days (Iversen).

Philadelphia vireos were observed at several points; April 28 at Indianapolis (Campbell), one at

W. Lafayette, carefully observed, is the second record for that locality (Burr). One was noted in Springfield, May 18 (Bonney) and in Chicago, May 27 (Bartel). Musselman considers the Bell's vireo less numerous than for several years, due, he believes, to the cutting of hazel brush and the general pulling of hedgerow fences. The first one heard at Springfield was on May 12 (Bonney).

The warbler migration extended from about April 11 through May 24. In Indianapolis few birds were seen until May 14 when all of the missing warblers turned up. A big warbler wave was reported at Madison on May 19 and 20 (Koehler). Myrtle warblers arrived at Joliet, April 5 (Siegel), Belvidere, Ill., April 7 (McMasters), and Springfield, April 9 (Bonney). The yellow warbler was likewise early, arriving at Indianapolis, April 21 (Campbell). Prothonotary warblers were noted in increased numbers along the Wabash River, near W. Lafayette (Burr), and it was noted at Springfield, April 26 (Bonney). A Brewster's warbler was noted by the latter observer on May 16 while another was observed in Chicago, May 20, for a half hour by Lewy, Kemp, and Bartel. A Lawrence's warbler was seen on May 25 near Deerfield, Ill. (Engstrom). Orange-crowned warblers were seen by most Sioux City observers, the first appearing on April 22. A Louisiana water-thrush was seen in Springfield, March 31 (Bonney).

Mrs. Battel found a large concentration of grackles, cowbirds, starlings, and robins with other birds in her yard and at her feeding table following a rain and snowstorm on April 4 at Ames, Iowa. Western meadowlarks were seen in Blue Island, Ill., for the first time by Bartel and were starting to nest. Brewer's blackbird arrived on the Horicon Refuge, March 23, and the yellow-headed blackbird, April 22 (Beed). In Indianapolis, a Baltimore oriole was seen on April 8 and a female rose-breasted grosbeak on April 21 (Campbell).

About 150 pine siskins have been in Logan Park Cemetery, Sioux City, since March 4 and are nesting. The many conifers in the cemetery provide ideal habitat for these birds. About 15 red crossbills have been noted with the siskins.

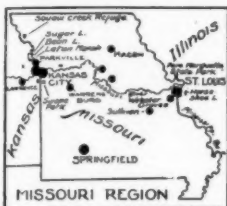
White-crowned sparrows were reported as much more common throughout the entire region. They were noted as early as May 6 when 25 were seen at Battle Creek, Iowa (Iversen) and until May 19 at Belvidere, Ill. (McMasters). White-throated sparrows were reported on March 18 at Joliet (Siegel) and March 23 at Belvidere. Ten Harris's sparrows were seen on April 7 at Atlantic, Iowa (Hansen), and this bird was noted on the Horicon Refuge, May 7 (Beed). Field sparrows arrived in Indianapolis on March 11 accompanied by a vesper sparrow. A towhee was observed at the same place on February 25 and three Henslow's sparrows on April 8 (Campbell).

A total of 147 species was secured by the Kumelein Bird Club of Madison on May 13 and the



same number was observed on a census at Springfield the day before.—ELLEN THORNE SMITH, *Lake Forest*, and PHILIP A. DUMONT, *Evanston, Illinois*.

**MISSOURI REGION** February was about 3° warmer than average with a slight excess of precipitation. March was one of the warmest on record



with a temperature of 8.6° above normal. Rainfall varied from average to over four inches above, being heaviest in the southeast. April was rather wet but about normal in temperature. May temperatures were 6° below the 58-year average.

Rainfall over most of the state was in excess and there were many dull cloudy days. Cool, rainy weather continued into June. A very severe hailstorm which struck St. Louis on May 14, at the height of the warbler migration no doubt took a toll of birdlife.

The very abnormal weather conditions may have been the cause of a peculiar spring migration. Warm weather early in the season seemed to speed up the northward movement of early migrants, while cool, wet weather in May retarded the movement of the later migrants.

Waterfowl wintered in the state in considerable numbers but a distinct northward movement of mallards and pintails was noted the last week of January when 300,000 moved into the Squaw Creek refuge in Holt County. Blue and lesser snow geese first appeared in the southeast about February 15, and during the next six weeks greater than usual numbers followed the Mississippi flyway. Numbers in the western part of the state were below normal. About 4,000 blue, lesser snow and Canada geese were reported from Holt County on March 18, and many remained in the southeast as late as April 15, but in general, concentrations at the resting places were below those of other years. White-fronted geese were reported only from St. Joseph, March 22. Gadwalls, baldpates and green-winged teal were common during March. About 150 buffleheads and 1500 canvasbacks were observed by Curtis Allen on the lower Mississippi between Cairo, Ill., and Tip-tonville, Tenn., February 18 and 19, but otherwise, with the exception of the lesser scaup, diving ducks were not seen in great numbers. The redhead, so plentiful in the spring of 1944, was very scarce this year. A survey of the Platte County marshes March 31, 1945, revealed about 200 ducks of seven species and 2000 coots, compared with 10,000 ducks of 13 species and 12,000 coots on the same bodies of water, April 3, 1944. Cool weather in May retarded the late ducks, and flocks of blue-winged teal, shovellers and a few baldpates were still present

on May 12. Five red-breasted mergansers were seen at St. Louis April 29 (several observers) and a cinnamon teal was observed in Platte County May 11 (Cunningham).

White pelicans were first reported from Lake Ozark April 4, and a few remained on the Platte County lakes May 11. American egrets were common along the Mississippi after April 21 and a few were present in Pike and St. Charles Counties on May 21. Soras were common between April 20 and May 12, and king rails and Florida gallinules were on the Platte County marshes, May 11.

The shore bird migration was about average. Golden plovers were observed in the southeast, March 21 and 22 and at St. Louis, April 1 to 8. Dowitchers were rather common locally, 50 in St. Charles County, April 29, and 8 in Platte County, April 27. Wilson's phalaropes were common in western Missouri from April 25 to May 15, and several were observed near St. Louis, May 6. Baird's sandpiper was reported from Platte County, April 28, and lesser yellowlegs, pectorals, least and semi-palmated sandpipers were common during late April and the first half of May. Forster's and black terns passed through in fair numbers and the Caspian tern and common tern were reported from St. Louis and St. Charles, April 29 and May 20.

Yellow-headed blackbirds were numerous in the northwest from April 15 to June 1. The sparrow migration was about normal with the greatest numbers reported from the western part of the state. The Harris's sparrow, after being scarce for several years, was common at Kansas City and St. Joseph from March 18 to May 15.

The migration of flycatchers, thrushes, vireos and warblers was reported by most observers as delayed, reaching the peak during the second and third weeks of May. The St. Louis observers report a good warbler flight with the chestnut-sided, bay-breasted and mourning warblers more common than usual. Moore observed about normal numbers at Sullivan. A two-day break in the cool rainy weather, May 11 and 12, was followed by the greatest concentration of warblers ever known in the Kansas City area. Tennessee, Nashville, orange-crowned, yellow, blackpoll warblers and redstarts literally swarmed in the surrounding parks and woodlands and even in the shade trees and shrubbery in the residential and business sections of the city. Thirty species of warblers were observed May 12 to 14. Uncommon species as the magnolia and chestnut-sided warbler were well represented and such rarities in western Missouri as the golden-winged warbler and the bay-breasted warbler could almost be considered common during this period. In one instance between 15 and 20 redstarts, an ovenbird and several olive-backed thrushes were seen in the trees in a downtown parking lot (Fay). Similar conditions existed north and east to Liberty and Warrensburg and lasted until about May 20. On May 21 magnolia, mourning, Canada, Wilson's and bay-breasted

warblers were still common in St. Charles County. The Cape May Warbler was observed in St. Charles County, May 21 (Cunningham) and at Sullivan, May 16 (Moore). Very late migrants were the olive-sided flycatcher, olive-backed thrush, blackpoll warbler and mourning warbler seen at Hannibal, Mo., June 9.—JAMES W. CUNNINGHAM, *Jefferson City, Mo.*

**MINNESOTA REGION** The weather throughout the past spring was most abnormal. The latter part of March was warm and balmy, almost like late



spring or even early summer. This started vegetation and brought many migrants earlier than usual. The ice went out of the lakes (park lakes at Minneapolis on March 27) and streams (Mississippi River at Minneapolis, March 17-18) much ahead of usual dates. The ice and snow melted in the forests, and this and heavy rains caused serious floods. Navigation opened

on Lake Superior March 29, the second earliest record. Then all through April and most of May the weather became unseasonably cold with chilly winds and cold rains. It snowed all day May 1, with six inches at Minneapolis and more elsewhere. Killing frosts occurred on several occasions, as far south as Minneapolis. All this checked the budding vegetation and greatly disordered the migration. During this period the birds arrived in small numbers, some species on time, others delayed. Then on May 19 and 20, even though the days were still inclement, came a veritable flood of retarded birds of many species, some new late arrivals, but mostly additions to the numbers of those already here. A surprising exception to the above was a report by Brother Hubert of St. Paul that on May 12 he and his party made a list of 97 species including many warblers, among them the Connecticut and prothonotary. He estimated that on that day they saw at least 2,000 myrtle warblers.

Dr. F. R. Keating, Jr., of Rochester, Minnesota, very kindly sent a very full record of the spring happenings there and introduced the annotated list with the following remarks: "The migration was the most unusual I have ever observed. The early spring was remarkably early; May was remarkably late. The duck flight at Mayowood was the poorest I have ever seen. The geese were few and left early, and there was no big flight of blue-bills as in other years. The unseasonable cold weather in early May did more than throw the warbler flight off schedule. On May 12 I was surprised to see 30 Nashville warblers feeding on the ground in thin woodland, like so many sparrows. The day was bitter cold

and windy; not a warbler did I see in the trees anywhere. May 14 the weather was the same. Again no birds were in the trees. Orange-crowned, Nashville, magnolia, Blackburnian, and Canada warblers were all feeding on the ground. I suppose the temperature was low enough to eliminate any activity among the insect life in the tree tops and these birds were reduced to hunting for food among the fallen leaves." Of the warbler movement, Dr. Keating says: "The warbler flight was the oddest I have ever seen. Warblers were very few throughout the first three weeks in May. For the most part the weather was cold, at times bitterly so. Nothing resembling a warbler wave occurred during this period. I thought the reason may have been the prevalent north or northeast winds. The wind shifted for the first time May 19, when a definite increase in the warbler flight was observed. On May 20 there occurred the heaviest warbler wave I have ever seen. I have no idea how many warblers I saw on that date. Observations were made at Mayowood, Whitewater, Weaver, and Frontenac. Uncountable thousands of warblers were seen at all four places with Tennessee, yellow, and redstarts predominating, but all species excepting the pine and parula were represented. Successive waves of smaller magnitude occurred May 22 and 27."

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Swedenborg, of Minneapolis, who are afiel almost daily write as follows about the migration: "This has been one of the most unpredictable seasons that we have ever watched. A season, during which we had seen 77 species by the end of March and which up to the 10th of April was the earliest in my experience, changed completely about that time and until the 4th of May became the most backward in many years. Beginning about the 5th of May, individuals began drifting through, but it was not until the 19th and 20th that birds really became numerous. These two days produced a wave (we saw 122 species that weekend) and since then conditions have become more normal." March and April furnished some unusually early arrival dates, among them the following at Minneapolis: robin, March 3, average March 14; migrant shrike, March 17, average April 11; greater yellow-legs, March 24, average April 14; lesser yellow-legs, March 26, average April 11; loon, March 25, average April 7; pied-billed grebe, March 24, average April 12; tree swallow, March 28, average April 11; phoebe, March 16, average March 25; myrtle warbler, April 8, average April 16; chipping sparrow, April 8, average April 16; brown thrasher, April 19, average April 26. There were more delayed than early arrivals. Reports from O. A. Stevens of Fargo and Mrs. Peterson of Madison, Minnesota, showed that the migration was about the same farther west as at Minneapolis.

*Items of Special Interest*—From Dr. Keating at Rochester, Minn.: House wren: "Arrived May 5. May 13 there was a most remarkable flight of house wrens and marsh wrens (both species). On this

date uncountable hundreds of house wrens were seen. I have never run into so dense a flight of wrens before." May 13, 65 prairie marsh wrens were seen; same date 50 short-billed; May 22, 300 scarlet tanagers seen in migration."

Mrs. Olin of Duluth writing on April 27: "I wonder if you have had the great flocks of robins in Minneapolis during the past week which we have had. In the fall we see large flocks of them migrating but they are nothing to the flocks which have been here the past few days. I first noticed them on the evening of April 20 just after a snow fall of about an inch. On the 24th I counted those I could see on our lawn from the living room window. Once there were 24 and another time 30, and the trees around were full of them. The next evening I counted 18 in our mountain ash tree at one time. The robins were restless and sang constantly from dawn to dark. The sound was so continuous that it was more noise than music though occasionally one song would stand out against this unceasing background of noise. Some people thought the birds seemed tipsy from eating so many mountain ash berries. The constant noise was the only thing which might have suggested such a thing to me.

"Do you think it was the cold weather and lack of food which drove the robins back here? The month of March was the third warmest on record while April has been very cold with frost practically every night. There has been snow on the 4th (4½ inches), 17th, 20th, and 22nd. At first the robins seemed to be heading south (west here following the lake shore) as were the juncos during each snowstorm. They seemed to be eating many worms and have stripped the mountain ash trees of the abundant berries which had stayed on all winter. Yesterday the robins started to leave and today the number is little more than normal. The numbers of robins was so unusual that many people were asking for an explanation."

**Blue Geese.** Flock of 7 near Minneapolis, March 21 (Mrs. Lupient).

**Whistling Swan.** A flock of 50 at Dr. W. P. Abbott's place near Grand Marais, Lake Superior, about April 15, on St. Louis River at Duluth, 70 to 168 on April 15 (Lakela) many more than usual in western Minnesota this spring (Conover).

**Blue and Snow Geese.** The flight this spring turned westward about Sioux City region and went out into the Dakotas, only a small number visiting the Lake Traverse area (Conover).

**Ducks.** According to Federal Warden Conover, the ducks (except mallards, pintails, and scaups) and Canada geese that went north this spring were only about 75% of last year, and others have reported the number still less.

**Glaucous Gull.** Dr. Lakela reporting on March 25 writes: "There are at least 7 glaucous gulls in the Duluth harbor and a smaller gull which is probably the Iceland, seen here several years ago

toward spring." Again on June 13, 1945, she describes seeing 14 red-throated loons in Lake Superior about 5 miles out on Minnesota Point. It seems strange that the few records of this northern breeding bird that we have are for late spring or early summer when it should be on its nesting grounds.—THOMAS S. ROBERTS, *Director, Minnesota Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.*

**UTAH REGION** Cool and rainy weather continued throughout April and May, culminating on June 12 with the hardest rain of the season in Salt Lake valley, with a 6 inch snowfall in the nearby mountains, and a drop in temperature, producing a light frost in the region. This condition doubtless accounts for some of the dates later than average and a longer stay in the region of certain species of birds.

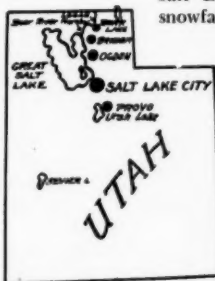
Vanez T. Wilson, Superintendent of Bear River Bird Refuge, reports the height of shore-bird migration at least one week later than usual. Except for the local breeding long-billed curlew, western willet, spotted sandpiper, blacknecked stilt, avocet and Wilson's phalarope and one northern breeder, the black-bellied plover, the spring shorebird migration was disappointing. Even the showing at Bear River Refuge on April 22 was poor, when in company of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Dewey and Mrs. Lockerbie, we made a careful survey of three units and their adjoining territory.

Another feature is the late departure from our city of such birds as the Bohemian waxwings, Audubon and pileolated warblers, western tanagers and evening grosbeaks.

**SPRING MIGRATION NOTES**—Earliest reported arrivals and late departures—eared grebe, 1, April 1, Bear River Refuge (Wilson) 100, western, April 22, Bear River Refuge (Lockerbie). Double-crested cormorant, 12, March 21, Bear River Refuge (W.). Snowy egret, 2 on April 9, Bear River Refuge; bittern on April 16, Bear River Refuge (W.), 8 at Lincoln Beach on April 29 (L.), white-faced glossy ibis, 1, April 2, Bear River Refuge (W.), 35; April 22, (L.). Whistling swan was last observed on May 11, Bear River Refuge (W.). Lesser snow goose, last observed at Bear River Refuge, 5, on April 18 (W.).

**Ducks**—Redhead, 12 on March 25 (L.), bufflehead, 4 on April 22, Bear River Refuge (L.); ruddy, 4 on March 25, Decker's Lake (L.).

**Sandhill Crane**—A flock of 100 birds flew over the Woffenden Ranch on the northeast shore of Utah Lake on March 22. Mr. Woffenden also re-



ported a pair arrived near his ranch on April 13 and remained a month.

**Shore birds**—Snowy plover, Bear River Refuge on April 28 (W.); black-bellied plover, 50 on May 6, New State Gun Club (L-E. R. Wilson); long-billed curlew, 2 on March 28, Bear River Refuge (W.), March 29, Utah Lake (Woffenden), 46 near Bear River Refuge on April 22 (L.); willet on April 13, Bear River Refuge (W.), April 15 at Decker's Lake (L.); marbled godwit, 15 on April 15, Decker's Lake (L.), 200 on April 20, Bear River Refuge (W.); dowitcher, 25 on April 15, Bear River Refuge (W.); black-necked stilt, 48 on April 13, Bear River Refuge (W.); Wilson's phalarope on May 1, Bear River Refuge (W.), 250 on May 6, New State Gun Club (L-W); northern phalarope, 10 on May 6, rare spring migrant, New State Gun Club (L-W).

**Gulls**—Franklin's, 1 on April 7, Bear River Refuge (W.), 200 on April 22 (L.), Bonaparte's, 1 immature, on May 6, New State Gun Club (L-W).

**Terns**—Forster's, 10 on April 22, Bear River Refuge (L.); Caspian, 1, May 6, New State Gun Club (L-W), a colony of 20 located in Farmington Bay on May 20 (L.). Black, 1 on May 6, New State Gun Club (L-W).

**Land birds**—Nighthawk on May 31, Salt Lake City (Earl Heusser) June 2, Dugway Mountains (L.). Hummingbirds—broadtailed, several on April 29, Payson, (Lockerie-Pfouts), May 1, (Bert Webb); black-chinned, 1, May 13, Audubon field day, mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, 1 on May 26, Memory Grove (Gordon Taylor). Eastern kingbird on May 20 (L.), Arkansas on May 6 (L.).

**Flycatcher**—Western, June 10 (L.), Wright's on May 13, Traill's on May 13, olive-sided on May 13, wood pewee on May 13, all on Audubon field trip, mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Say's phoebe, March 15, Bear River Refuge (W.).

**Swallows**—Violet-green on April 22, tree, 200 on April 8, Bear River Refuge (W.), thousands on April 22 at same place (L.), very late this year; bank on May 6, rough-wing, April 22, Bear River Refuge, cliff, 25 on April 20 (W.), 200 on April 22 (L.), Bear River Refuge.

**Wrens**—House on April 29, rock on April 29 (L.), mouth of Spanish Fork Canyon.

**Thrushes**—hermit on April 29, olive-backed, June 7, (L.).

**Waxwings**—Bohemians regularly observed in eastern part of Salt Lake City and valley throughout March by Don Bennion, Earl Heusser, Owen Lambert, Gordon Taylor and Bert Webb. Last dates observed were April 11, by Heusser, and 2 on April 14 by Taylor. These are very late dates. Cedars, 2 on March 24, (T.). He also records fifteen other observations of from 2 to 11 birds between April 11 and May 8.

**Warbling Vireo**—May 9 (Webb), May 10, (L.), May 13 (T.).

**Warblers**—Orange-crowned, May 13, Virginia on

April 29 (Webb), May 10 (T), May 13, Audubon field trip. Yellow, May 4 (T.), on May 5 (L.), May 6 (Webb). Audubon's on April 20 (Webb). Yellow-throat on May 20 (L.) very late. Chat, May 13 (L.); pileolated, May 6 (Webb), May 13 (T.). Western tanager on May 13 (T.), have continued unusually common throughout the city for one month. Last reported by Earl Heusser on June 17.

Yellow-headed blackbird, 10 on April 15, Decker's Lake (L.); Bullock's oriole on May 5 (T.); cowbird on May 27 (L.); lazuli bunting on May 5 (T.), May 6 (Webb), May 13 (L.); black-headed grosbeak, May 5 (T.), May 6 (Webb); evening grosbeak, last noted June 1 (Heusser) a very late date. Cassin's purple finch, April 7 (Webb), April 8 (L.); green-tailed towhee, May 13 (L.).

**Sparrows**—Vesper on April 22, Bear River Refuge (L.), savannah, March 11, Decker's Lake (L.), lark, April 29, Lincoln Beach (L-Pfouts), sage, March 11, Decker's Lake, Audubon field day; chipping, April 22; white-crowned, May 17 (L.), May 19, (T.); slate-colored fox, April 16 (L.).

**RARITIES**—Gordon Taylor reported careful observation of redpoll in City Cemetery on March 16 and a grasshopper sparrow in Mt. Olivet Cemetery on April 29 and on May 19; at Payson, Utah, I observed 2 flocks of green-backed goldfinches.—CHARLES W. LOCKERBIE, 223 West 9th South Street, Salt Lake City 4, Utah.

**TEXAS COASTAL REGION** Unseasonably warm weather prevailed from mid-February to April 4, when the temperature dropped to 40°.



Other cool spells came on April 16 (55°) and May 16, when a 20-year record for May was broken by 47° temperature. There were widespread rains at the end of March, on April 20-21, and in mid-May; otherwise the season was dry.

**General notes**—The first unmistakable spring migrant is always the purple martin, which appeared in Houston on February 5. In normal years no more new migrants show up till March, and very few until the latter half of March. There is a two weeks' lag in early April; and then the great rush begins. This year, however, nearly all the birds due in March showed up a week to a month early. Those due later came approximately on schedule. Northward migrations of ducks and geese wintering in the region were observed in the mild weather of late February; but absolute departure of several species was delayed far beyond the normal time. Thus, for June 15, Mrs. Hagar reports rafts of 25-50 gadwalls common about Rockport, many lesser scaup, a few pintails and baldpates, and 5-6 canvasbacks. Mr. McKay reports a large

flock of blue and lesser snow geese southeast of Cove as late as May 4.

**Arrivals**—About 1000 anhingas were seen near Sheldon, February 13; but McKay reports the species at Cove only from March 13, ten days earlier than ever before. Lark sparrow 10 miles north of Houston, February 18, 10 days early; 2 adult roseate spoonbills on the Aransas Refuge, February 11 (wintering birds?) and 2 at Vingt-et-un Island, February 26, a week early; parula warbler at Rockport, March 3, and at Cove, March 4, earlier than ever before; white-eyed vireo at Cove, March 4, 10 days early; Wilson's plover at Rockport, March 7; yellow-crowned night heron at Cove, March 11, two weeks early; fulvous tree duck at Houston, March 18, 12 days early; chimney swift at Houston, March 24; scissor-tailed flycatcher 20 miles north and 15 miles east of Houston, March 25; eastern kingbird 25 miles south of Houston, March 18, 10 days early; crested flycatcher at Cove, April 5, and at Rockport, April 6; least bittern at Kemah, April 8, 2 weeks early; least tern at Kemah, April 8; yellow-billed cuckoo at Kemah, April 8, a week early; dickcissel at Houston, April 20, and at Rockport, April 21.

**Departures**—Because of war conditions, all departure dates are uncertain; but the following seem authentic; white-fronted goose at Cove, April 2; Canada goose at Cove, April 8; ring-necked duck, green-winged teal, and redhead at Rockport, April 29; red-tailed hawk at mouth of San Jacinto, April 8; marsh hawk at Houston, June 1; pigeon hawk at Cove, April 29, and at Palacios, May 3; sparrow hawk at Houston, April 4; phoebe at Rockport, April 21, and at Cove, April 18; tree swallow at Cove, May 11; hermit thrush 25 miles south of Houston, April 25, 2 weeks late; American pipit at Houston, April 17, 2 weeks early; blue-gray gnatcatcher 25 miles south of Houston, April 22; cedar waxwing at Houston, May 2, 10 days early; blue-headed vireo at Cove and Rockport, April 22; myrtle warbler at Houston, April 6, and near mouth of San Jacinto, April 8; goldfinch at mouth of San Jacinto, April 8; field sparrow at Cove, April 15; white-throated and Lincoln's sparrows at Rockport, April 21, and at Cove, April 22; chipping sparrow at Rockport, April 1.

**Transients**—Arrivals: mountain plover at Galveston, March 19; golden plover at Cove, March 11; Hudsonian curlew at Galveston, February 23, a month early; stilt sandpiper at Galveston, April 26; upland plover at Cove, March 18; buff-breasted sandpiper at Galveston, April 29; Wilson's phalarope at Rockport, April 27; black tern at Rockport and Galveston, April 29; chuck-will's-widow at Cove, April 8, a week late; whip-poor-will at Houston, March 11, two weeks early; catbird at Cove, March 11, two weeks early; rough-winged swallow at Cove, March 27, and barn swallow there, March 31. Thrushes at Cove as follows: gray-checked, April 5, two weeks early; wood, April 8, a week early; olive-backed, April 9, 10 days early. Warb-

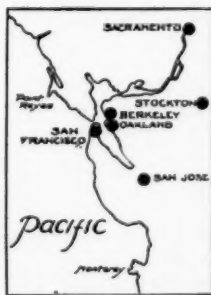
lers at Cove as follows: worm-eating, April 20; blue-winged, April 19; water thrush, April 21; yellow-breasted chat, April 18. Warblers at Kemah as follows, April 21: prothonotary, golden-winged, magnolia, black-throated green, cerulean, chestnut-sided, Kentucky, redstart. Warblers at Rockport as follows: Nashville, March 21; Audubon's, April 29; Blackburnian, April 21; sycamore, April 7; blackpoll, April 21; ovenbird, April 21; Connecticut, April 22; Wilson's, April 22; Canada, April 21. Orchard oriole at Cove and 25 miles south of Houston, April 15; Baltimore oriole at Rockport and Kemah, April 21, and at Cove and Houston, April 22. Rose-breasted grosbeak at Cove March 18, a month early, and at Rockport and Kemah, April 21. Blue grosbeak at Cove, April 19, and at Rockport and Kemah, April 21. Indigo bunting at Houston, April 8.

A huge flight of broad-winged hawks inundated the coast from Corpus Christi to mouth of San Jacinto River, April 1-2.

**Departures** at Cove: stilt sandpiper, May 10; upland plover, May 6; chuck-will's-widow, May 5; black and white, black-throated green, and Blackburnian warblers, May 13; redstart, May 11.

**Rarities**—Mrs. Hagar reports 2 yellow-billed tropic birds near Rockport, June 13; and Sgt. J. M. Heiser, Mrs. Edna Miner, and Miss Mabel Kaiser examined a pair of Eskimo curlews on Galveston Island for nearly an hour, April 29. Many Hudsonian curlews were standing about the Eskimos for comparison, and all field-marks were carefully checked with 8-power field glasses from a distance of less than 100 yards.—GEORGE G. WILLIAMS, *The Rice Institute, Houston, Texas.*

**SAN FRANCISCO REGION** March brought more than average rain but low temperatures which retarded plant growth at the higher levels of our



area. April had deficient rain with warm, clear days and cold nights. May continued cold with more clouds than the normal, and this delayed the drying out of the soil and vegetation. All these conditions generally favored the activities of birds, and early nestings were followed in many species by second broods. It is rare to have a spring season so continuously suitable for

birds. Freedom from storms and the extremes of wetness or dryness suits nearly every kind of land bird.

At Alameda Mrs. Kelly reported a great increase in individuals of most species of shore birds on April 15, the birds being in summer plumage. These



swarms of birds were about gone by mid-May. Eared grebe, Alameda, 2 in breeding plumage on April 8 (Kelly); white pelican, Gray Lodge Refuge, 137 on April 7, 37 on April 15, 1 on April 21, 2 on April 26 (Johnston); green heron, Carmel River-mouth, first of season on April 15 (Williams); American egret, Carmel River-mouth, 2 on June 15 (W.); American bittern, Castroville, Monterey County, April 29 (W.); shoveller, Dumbarton Bridge, 300 to 40 on March 29 (K.); semipalmated plover, Alameda, present on April 8, though wintering birds left previously, about 75 on April 20 (K.); lesser yellow-legs, Dumbarton Bridge, 4 on March 29 (K.); willet, Alameda, only 1 on April 22 (K.); wandering tattler, Cliff House, 1 on April 27 (K.), Point Lobos, 1 on May 21 (R. W. Storer); dowitcher, Alameda, many arrived on March 21 (K.), Gray Lodge Refuge, 88 on April 7 (J.); knot, Alameda, 2 on April 8, few on April 29 (K.), Moss Landing, 4 on April 29 (W.); western sandpiper, Alameda, most abundant species on April 20 (K.); Wilson's phalarope, Carmel River-mouth, 3 on April 23 (W.); short-billed gull, near Santa Cruz, 1 on April 25 (Minturn); Bonaparte's gull, Carmel River-mouth, first of the season on April 15 (W.); kittiwake, near Santa Cruz, 3 on April 25, 1 of them oil soaked (Minturn), Point Lobos, 35 on May 21 (S. and W.), Carmel River-mouth, 5 on May 28 (W.).

Some winter birds departed early, but others remained later than expected. Reduced numbers late in the season made it difficult to detect actual departure dates. Reports of late occurrence follow: varied thrush, Ross, Marin County, 2 on May 9, Alameda, 1 on May 10 (Kelly); golden-crowned kinglet, Carmel Highlands, May 5 (Williams); ruby-crowned kinglet, Alameda, April 19 (K.), Hastings Reservation, April 21 (Linsdale); myrtle warbler, Carmel, April 27 (W.); Audubon's warbler, Hastings Reservation, April 19 (L.); white-crowned sparrow, Alameda, last *gambeli* on April 22 (K.); golden-crowned sparrow, Carmel, 2 on April 28 (W.), Hastings Reservation, April 28 (L.); Lincoln's sparrow, Hastings Reservation, April 27 (L.).

Arrival of summer birds, or detection of it, was earlier than usual in only a few examples. Birds dependent on flying insects found unsuitable feeding conditions if they came early, and many species were represented at first by few individuals. Some reported first dates: western kingbird, Hastings Reservation, April 1 (Linsdale); western flycatcher, Alma, Santa Cruz Mountains, March 29 (Kelly), Carmel, March 31 (W.), Berkeley, April 7 (Weston); wood pewee, Hastings Reservation, April 23 (L.); olive-sided flycatcher, Carmel, April 15 (Morrow), Hastings Reservation, April 15 (L.), Lake Temescal, April 18 (K.); barn swallow, Alameda, March 21 (K.); cliff swallow, Dumbarton Bridge, March 29 (K.); purple martin, Hastings Reservation, April 7 (L.); house-wren, Hastings Reservation, March 26 (L.); olive-backed thrush, Ross, April 21 (K.); warbling vireo, Lake Temescal, April 18 (K.), Hast-

ings Reservation, March 31 (L.); yellow warbler, Carmel, April 15, (Williams); hooded oriole, Seminary Court, Oakland, April 7 and 9 (Brock); Bullock's oriole, Hastings Reservation, April 4 (L.), Alameda, May 12 (K.); cowbird, Berkeley, April 2 (Pitelka), 5 miles east of Hayward, male and female on April 12 (B.); black-headed grosbeak, Alameda, April 4 (K.), Berkeley, April 14 (Weston), Hastings Reservation, April 15 (L.); lazuli bunting, Berkeley, April 20 (P.); chipping sparrow, Berkeley, April 5 (Weston).

Many land birds appeared at unexpected places in the area in late winter and in the migration season. The observations are too few to trace any orderly migration or to show the nature of these occurrences as related to the whole region. Osprey, near Port Costa, April 15 (Jollie), Carmel River-mouth, May 12 (Williams); band-tailed pigeon, Sutter Buttes, 12 on April 17 (Johnston); saw-whet owl, Carmel Highlands, 1 on May 21 (W.); black swift, Carmel, 23 in air at once on May 26 (W.); rufous hummingbird, Alma, Santa Cruz Mountains, March 29 (Kelly); Townsend's solitaire, near Santa Cruz, April 23 (Minturn); cedar waxwing, Carmel, flocks present April 15 to June 15 (W.); yellow-breasted chat, Carmel, May 5 (W.); pileolated warbler, Golden Gate Park, March 18 (K.); western tanager, Oakland, March 27 (Curtis), Berkeley, May 2 (Weston), seen on all trips from Alameda, May 1 to 17 (K.); black-headed grosbeak, Carmel, May 1 (Morrow); red crossbill, a mile from Santa Cruz, about 35 on April 17, 15 on April 19, 20 on April 23 (Minturn); Harris's sparrow, Berkeley, February 26 (Jollie), March (Pitelka), April 12 (R. W. Storer). —JEAN M. LINSDALE, Hastings Reservation, Jamesburg Route, Monterey, Calif.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA** Precipitation this spring varied but little from the normal, as did the mean temperature. Frosts occurred late,

however, into the middle of March.

White pelican, Puddingstone Dam during April, 2000 in flock, thereafter for a month, small flocks of 200 (Fuller); April 4, Pasadena, 150 (Quattlebaum, Young); turkey vulture, March 18, in two flocks, Banning (Wilson), April 5, San

Gabriel River Sanctuary, 15 in flock, flying horizontally (Comby), April 15, Pasadena, 136 (Q.); ferruginous rough-legged hawk, March 18, Capistrano, 1 (Atkinson), April 2, Beaumont, 1 (W.); bald eagle, April 29, Balboa Park, San Diego, 1 (Yrizarry); marsh hawk, April 15, South Laguna, 1



(A.), June 24, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 1 (C.); duck hawk, March 14, San Nicolas Island, 2 (Rett); April 18, Sweetwater Slough (Huey); western pigeon hawk, April 1, Palos Verdes, a ten minute, close-up observation (Shuart); black-bellied plover, March 25, San Nicolas Island, 25 (R.); Hudsonian curlew, March 7, many; April 3, 1, San Nicolas Island (R.); May 2, 3, and 6, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 150 in flight (C); spotted sandpiper, April 8, 15, 29, and May 6, Palos Verdes, 13, 5, 7, 5, 2, respectively (S.), April 23, 1 and April 30, 3, Riverside (W.); wandering tattler, April 8, 15, 29 and May 6 and 13, Palos Verdes, 1, 1, 8, 8, 4, respectively, and thereafter, none. Mr. Shuart's last year's records are surfbird, April 30, 7, May 7, 6, and April 14, Seal Beach, 120 (Pyle); black turnstone, March 8, 4, and March 13, 7, San Nicolas Island (R.); April 1, Palos Verdes, 87 (S); dowitcher, June 17, Carlsbad, 2 (Y); sanderling, May 13, South Laguna, 50 (A.); American avocet, June 3, Salton Sea, 283 (Y); Heermann's gull, May 6, del Rey, 3 (P.); May 16, Puddingstone Dam, 3 (F); laughing gull, June 3, Salton Sea, 1 (Y); black-legged kittiwake, March 10 to 12, 3 found dead (R.); black tern, May 13, Puddingstone Dam, 3 (F); gull-billed tern, June 3, Salton Sea, 50 (Y); Caspian tern, June 10, Mission Bay, 7 (Y); least tern, April 29, San Diego, 1, (Abbott, Croude); band-tailed pigeon, March 20, April 2, and 28, Beaumont, 26, 100, and 50, respectively (W); yellow-billed cuckoo, June 20, heard, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (Mrs. C.); booming nighthawk, June 11 to 16, Big Bear, 2 (C); poor-will, May 15, Pasadena, 2 (Q); black-chinned hummingbird, March 16, South Laguna (A.), April 16, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (Mrs. R. Lewis), April 16, Little Tujunga (Kent); costa hummingbird, May 8, San Diego (C.), April 21, Sunland (S.), April 14, Banning (W.); rufous hummingbird, February 23, Sunland, remained 5 weeks (S.), March 7, Pasadena 4 (Q), March 16, South Laguna (A.), April 29, Palos Verdes (S.), April 30, Tapia Park, numerous (K.); Allen hummingbird, April 14, Banning (W.); western kingbird, April 23, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 8 in one small field (C.); ash-throated flycatcher, April 14, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (C.), April 14, Ferndell (K.), April 29, Banning (W.), March 31, Pasadena, 2 (Q); Hammond flycatcher, June 11 to 16, Big Bear, identified by characteristic notes, "sewip, zsurp, treep," sung continuously from perch usually high up in conifer; widespread over the coniferous area, about 6 individuals observed (C., Mrs. C.); Wright's flycatcher, June 10, Big Bear, identified by hiccoughing, notes, "tee, tee, tee-hick," 1 observed (C., Mrs. C.); wood pewee, April 18, Bonita (R.), April 21, Pasadena (Q); olive-sided flycatcher, April 20, Sturdevant Falls, singing (K.), May 6, Pasadena (Q.), May 11, Santa Barbara (R.); violet-green swallow, April 15, Mt. Wilson Trail (Berry), May 11, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (Q.); tree swallow, March 18,

Capistrano (A); rough-winged swallow, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, first seen, 1, March 13, next day, 6 (C); cliff swallow, March 10, Pasadena, 2 (Q.); March 12, South Laguna, 50 (A.), March 12, San Diego, large numbers (C.), March 25, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, (B.); Swainson thrush, April 30, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, heard (Mrs. C.); western bluebird, March 18, Banning (W.); cedar waxwing, April 24, Pasadena, 75, largest number reported this season; Bell's vireo, April 13, La Mesa, 1 (K. Dixon), May 13, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (B.); warbling vireo, March 26, Mt. Oakes Park, 3 (K.), April 14, Sunland, 1 (S.), May 1 and 2, Banning (W.), May 13, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 3 (B); orange-crowned warbler, February 22, Pasadena (Q.), March 19, Mt. Oakes Park, 1 (K.), April 9, Millard Canyon, 25 (K.), April 13, La Mesa (D.), May 14, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 1 (K.); Nashville warbler, February 11, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (Mrs. C.); April 13, La Mesa (D.), April 14, Sunland (S.), April 16, Little Tujunga, 1 (K.), May 1, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 1 (C.), May 14, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 1 (K.); yellow warbler, April 14, Ferndell, 1 (K.), April 25, Nigger Slough (B.), May 2, Pasadena (Q.), May 14, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, 1 (K.); myrtle warbler, April 15, 23, 27, two each in same place, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (C.), April 9, Millard Canyon (K.); Audubon warbler, April 15, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (C.); black-throated gray warbler, April 9, Millard Canyon, 1 (K.), April 11, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (C.); Townsend's warbler, April 13, La Mesa, 1 (D.), May 13, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, (B.), May 14, San Gabriel River Sanctuary, (K.); hermit warbler, April 19, Pasadena, 2 (Q.), April 20, Sturdevant Falls, 1 (K.), April 23, Old Eagle Rock Canyon (K.), May 13, 1, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (B.); Tolmie warbler, April 14, Sunland, 1 (S.), April 14, Ferndell, 1 (K.), May 7, Eagle Rock (Yost); chat, April 14, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (Shuart); pileolated warbler, Altadena, wave passed through for three weeks to May 15 (Allen); yellow-headed blackbird, May 7 Puddingstone Dam, 7 (F.); hooded oriole, March 23, San Diego (C); western tanager, May 16, place not given, 15 to 20, flying low in trees and near ground (Duff), April 27, first seen, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (L.); black-headed grosbeak, early records, April 7, Sunland (S.), April 9, Pasadena (Y.), April 11, Pasadena (Q.), April 13, San Diego (C.), April 12, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (L.), April 14, Ferndell, 1 (K.), April 15, Alhambra (B.), April 19, San Diego, 2 (A.); blue grosbeak, May 5, Santa Paula, (R); lazuli bunting, April 23, Old Eagle Rock Canyon, 1 (K.); white-crowned sparrow, last observed, April 23, Pasadena (Y.), April 26, San Gabriel River Sanctuary (L.); golden-crowned sparrow, last seen, May 10, Pasadena (Y.). The logical nomenclature of Grinnell and Miller is used in this report.—J. H. COMBY, Box 378F, Route 3, Whittier, Calif.

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